

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claims 1-9 (canceled):

1 Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 8,~~  
2 ~~further comprising the step of:~~ A method of decoding  
3 encoded image data comprising the steps of:  
4 operating a decoder circuit implemented in  
5 hardware to perform at least one non-memory intensive  
6 image decoding operation to generate, from the encoded  
7 image data, a first set of processed image data, the at  
8 least one non-memory intensive image decoding operation  
9 being a variable length decoding operation;  
10 supplying the first set of processed image data  
11 generated by the decoder circuit to a programmable  
12 processor; and  
13 operating the programmable processor to perform  
14 at least one additional image decoding operation using  
15 the first set of processed image data;  
16 wherein the step of operating the decoder circuit,  
17 includes the step of performing at least two additional  
18 operations from the group of operations consisting of an  
19 inverse scan conversion operation, an inverse  
20 quantization operation, an inverse discrete cosine  
21 transform operation, and a data reduction operation, the  
22 two additional operations being different from said at  
23 least one non-memory intensive operation;  
24 wherein the programmable processor is coupled to a  
25 graphics processor, the method further comprising the  
26 steps of:

27 operating the graphics processor to perform a  
28 motion compensated prediction operation using data  
29 included in the first set of processed data; and  
30 storing in the decoder circuit multiple sets of  
31 context information for different video streams at the  
32 same time, each set of stored context information  
33 corresponding to a different one of a plurality of  
34 encoded video data streams processed by the decoder  
35 circuit each set of context information including  
36 vertical size, horizontal size and frame rate  
37 information.

Claims 11-30 (canceled):